

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 15, 2006 was received and reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are requested for the reasons advanced in detail below.

Claims 1-3 and 11-22 were pending prior to the instant amendment. By this amendment, claims 1, 11 and 17 have been amended and new claims 23-42 have been added to recite additional features of the present invention to which Applicants are entitled. Consequently, claims 1-3 and 11-22 are currently pending in the instant application, of which claims 1, 11, 17, 23 and 28 are independent.

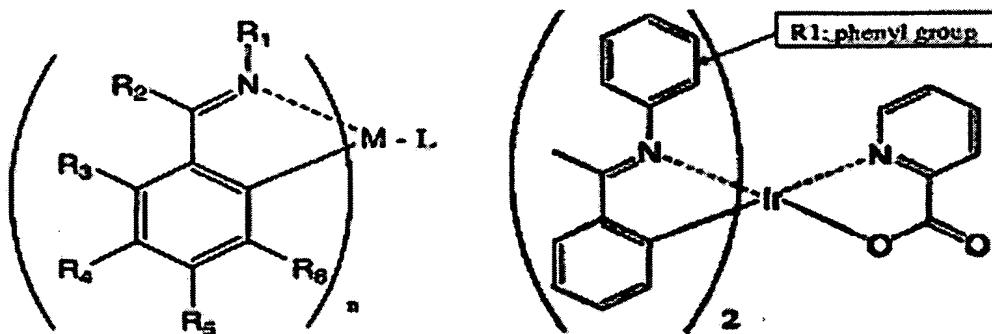
In the detailed Office Action, claims 1-3 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0034656 A1 – hereafter Thompson) for reasons of record in the Office Action mailed October 7, 2005. Further, claims 17-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson, further in view of Yamazaki et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0050373 A1 – hereafter Yamazki) or Kamatani et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0059646 A1 – hereafter Kamatani), for reasons of record in the Office Action mailed October 7, 2005.

In response to these rejections, Applicants have amended claims 1, 11 and 17 so as to clarify the characteristic of the present invention and to distinguish over Thompson. Specifically, the claims have been amended to recite “wherein R₁ is phenyl group”, as supported in paragraphs [0082]-[0087] and Formulas 13-14.

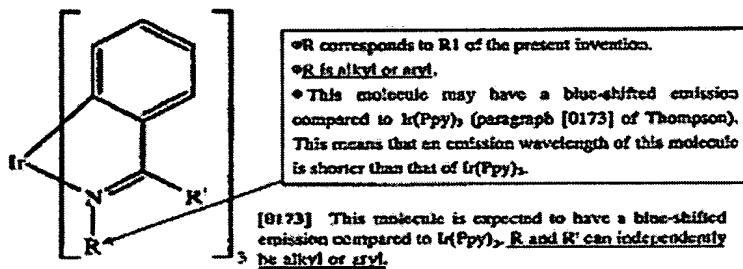
Although Thompson appears to disclose a similar ligand represented by the claimed formula 2 and to disclose that a place equal to R₁ of the claimed formula 2 is independently alkyl or aryl, Applicants respectfully assert that Thompson does not disclose or suggest that the place equal to R₁ of the claimed formula 2 is phenyl group.

Further, it is one of the objectives of the present invention to provide white emission color or whitish emission color by using the organometallic complex which emits both fluorescence and phosphorescence, discussed on page 7, lines 15-17 of the specification. However, Thompson does not disclose or suggest this objective. The formula represented by Thompson’s [0172], for example, have a blue-shifted emission compared to Ir(Ppy)₃. To compare and contrast Applicants’ invention with that of Thompson, Applicants would like to submit the following illustrations:

[Formula 2 of the present invention] [Formula 13 of the present invention]



[Formula disclosed in paragraph [0172] of Thompson]



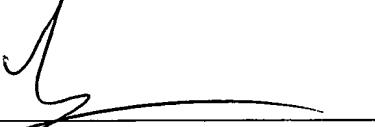
For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully assert that the amendment of independent claims 1, 11 and 17 further distinguish the presently claimed invention over that of Thompson.

The requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness, as detailed in MPEP § 2143 - 2143.03 (pages 2100-122 - 2100-136), are: first, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference to combine the teachings; second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success; and, finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

As Thompson is deficient in teaching, disclosing or suggesting R1 being phenyl group in combination with other claimed features, the application of Thompson, alone or in combination with Yamazaki or Kamatani, is improper.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 1-3 and 11-22 be allowed, that new claims 23-42 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue. If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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